

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
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R 221400Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6535
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USCINCEUR GER
CINCUSAFE RHFAAB
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PLOS, TU, GR, BU, UR
SUBJ: TURKISH OPPOSITION LEADER CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT ON ENERGY
POLICIES AND SECRET AEGEAN TALKS

REF: 76 ANKARA 8696 (DTG 151450Z NOV 76)

1. IN REMARKS TO THE TURKISH GEOLOGISTS ASSEMBLY
FEBRUARY 21, WIDELY REPORTED IN THE FOLLOWING DAY'S PRESS,
OPPOSITION REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP) LEADER ECEVIT
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RETURNED TO HIS UNHELPFUL THEME OF NOVEMBER 14 (REFTEL) WHEN
HE STATED THAT "SECRET TURKISH-GREEK TALKS AWAKEN OUR
SUSPICION". SAYING THAT "OUR AGE IS NOT AN AGE OF SECRET
NEGOTIATIONS", ECEVIT SAID THAT DIPLOMATIC "TALKS MUST BE
CARRIED OUT IN THE OPEN AND INFORMATION MUST BE GIVEN TO THE
PUBLIC."

2. ECEVIT STATED THAT "THERE IS ONE CLEAR SIGN CONFIRMING OUR SUSPICION: THAT IS THAT, PENDING THE OUTCOME OF THE AEGEAN TALKS, THE DE FACTO SITUATION IN THE AEGEAN IS TO BE FROZEN. YET THE STATUS QUO IN THE AEGEAN WAS UNILATERALLY SET UP BY THE GREEKS...IN THE YEARS WHEN TURKEY REMAINED SILENT. FREEZING THE DE FACTO SITUATION MEANS FREEZING A SITUATION IN FAVOR OF GREECE. IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND WHAT GOOD CAN COME OF IT FOR TURKEY."

3. ECEVIT CRITICIZED PREMIN DEMIREL FOR SAYING THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT TO DETERMINE THE AEGEAN'S OIL RESOURCES BEFORE SETTLING THE ISSUE WITH GREECE. " THIS IS NOT A NATIONALISTIC UNDERSTANDING THAT WE CAN COMPREHEND", ECEVIT REPORTEDLY SAID. " WHETHER THERE IS OIL OR NOT, IT IS A DUTY TO FIGHT FOR EVERY BIT OF THE FATHERLAND. WHATEVER IT IS THAT WE FIGHT FOR ON OUR TERRITORY WHICH HAS NO UNDERGROUND RESOURCES, THAT IS WHAT WE SHOULD FIGHT FOR IN THE AEGEAN. BESIDES, THERE ARE CERTAINLY MANY MINERAL RESOURCES IN THE AEGEAN WHICH CANNOT BE EXPLOITED WITH TODAY'S TECHNOLOGY. THESE RESOURCES CAN BE EXPLOITED IN THE FUTURE. THAT IS WHY TURKEY SHOULD IMMEDIATELY ACT WITH MORE DETERMINATION ON THIS TOPIC TO SAFEGUARD HER NATIONAL INTERESTS."

4. CRITICIZING THE GOVERNMENT FOR FAILING TO MAKE THE MOST OF TURKEY'S NATURAL RESOURCES AND SKILLED MANPOWER, ECEVIT SAID THAT TURKEY WAS FACING AN EVER MORE ACUTE DEVELOPMENT BOTTLENECK IN ENERGY. HE NOTED THAT TURKEY HAD IMPORTED 300 MILLION KWH OF ELECTRICITY FROM BULGARIA LAST YEAR, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BUT HAD NOTHING TO EXPORT IN RETURN, AND SAID THAT AN ELECTRICITY-SHARING AGREEMENT WITH THE USSR WOULD BE SIMILARLY ONE-SIDED. "DEPENDENCE ON ABROAD FOR POWER TO OPERATE INDUSTRIES CAN EVENTUALLY HAVE AN ADVERSE EFFECT ON A COUNTRY'S POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE", HE WARNED. " WHILE TURKEY IS RIGHTLY STRIVING TO END HER OVERDEPENDENCE ON THE WEST, SHE MUST BE CAREFUL NOT TO BECOME DEPENDENT ON OTHER COUNTRIES."

5. COMMENT: ECEVIT'S CRITICISM OF THE GOVERNMENT FOR CONDUCTING SECRET NEGOTIATIONS WITH GREECE AND FOR NOT MOVING VIGOROUSLY ENOUGH TO DEFEND TURKEY'S RIGHT IN THE AEGEAN UNDOUBTEDLY FORESHADOWS WHAT WILL BE A BASIC REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY THEM IN THE UPCOMING ELECTION CAMPAIGN. MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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